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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/016,449	12/10/2001	Robert Thomas Bailis	RPS920010127US1	5286
47052	7590	03/23/2005	EXAMINER	
SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP PO BOX 51418 PALO ALTO, CA 94303			TABONE JR, JOHN J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2133	

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/016,449	BAILIS ET AL.	
	Examiner John J. Tabone, Jr.	Art Unit 2133	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-15 remain pending in this application. Claims 1-15 have been examined.
2. The objections and rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. 112 are withdrawn in response to Applicant's amendment.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments concerning claims 1-15 filed 09/17/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As per arguments for claims 1 and 9:

The Applicant states on page 8 "there is no suggestion or motivation to combine Chang 1 and Barnett". The Applicant also states on page 9 there is no suggestion or motivation to combine Chang 2 and Chang". The Examiner would like to remind the Applicant that it is not necessary that the references actually suggest, expressly or in so many words, the changes or improvements that applicant has made. The test for combining references is what the references as a whole would have suggested to one of ordinary skill in the art. *In re Sheckler*, 168 USPQ 716 (CCPA 1971); *In re McLaughlin* 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971); *In re Young* 159 USPQ 725 (CCPA 1968).

The Applicant states on page 9 "Barnett teaches that an emulator should substitute for the microcontroller for testing purposes, not be "coupled to the at least one bus and plurality of internal signals . . . that observes and manipulates the at least one

bus and the plurality of internal signals””. The Examiner would like to point out that Chang1 v. Barnett brings in the debug function, not the bus manipulation function (see Chang2). The Examiner refers the Applicant to the Office Action of record, paragraph 7, “Barnett teaches an emulator that may be used to emulate a micro-controller in a smart card. FPGA 100 is programmed with a model of a micro-controller 102 and a model of monitoring or debug logic 104 (debug client function). (Col. 5, lines 37-43)”. It is the programming of Barnett’s FPGA 100 monitoring (observing) and debug functions that the Examiner combines with Chang1’s PLB 26, NOT the emulator itself.

The Applicant states on page 9 “Chang 2 does not a debug client function that observes and manipulates the at least one bus, rather the FPGA of Chang 2 performs logic functions necessary for operation of the ASFPGA, whatever functionality it is given”. The Applicant also states on page 10 “Barnett fails to disclose that the emulator “manipulates the at least one bus and the plurality of internal signals,” as recited in claim 1”. The Examiner agrees with the Applicant that Chang2 alone “does not debug a client function that observes and manipulates”. The Examiner also agrees with the Applicant that Barnett alone “fails to disclose that the emulator manipulates the at least one bus and the plurality of internal signals. However, the Examiner would like to point out that it is Chang1 v. Barnett v. Chang2 that brings in the bus manipulation function with the debug function. As stated above, Barnett brings in the observe and debug functions NOT the bus manipulation function, Changs2 does that. The Examiner also refers the Applicant to the Office Action of record, paragraph 7, “Chang2 teaches of a FPGA included within an ASIC that is configurable to effect a specific digital logic circuit

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interconnection between fixed functional units (manipulates bus signals). (Col. 3, 32-37; col. 5, lines 66, 67; col. 6, lines 1-19)". Chang2 effects (manipulates) interconnections (bus and internal signals).

As stated by the Applicant on page 11, "the arguments with respect to claim 1 apply to claim 9" and, as such, the above arguments presented by the Examiner also apply to claim 9.

It is the Examiner's conclusion that independent claims 1, and 9 are not patentably distinct or non-obvious over the prior arts of record namely, Chang (US-6260087), in view of Barnett (US-6173419) and further in view of Chang (US-5687325). Therefore, the rejection is maintained. Based on their dependency on claims 1, and 9, claims 2-8 and 10-15, respectively, stand rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang (US-6260087), or Chang1, in view of Barnett (US-6173419) and further in view of Chang (US-5687325) or Chang2.

Claim 1:

Chang1 teaches in Fig. 1, a PCI Bus Controller ("PCIBC") ASIC 10 (ASIC). Chang1 also teaches included in the PCIBC 10 are conventional functional blocks (standard cell including a plurality of logic functions) include a SRAM block 12, an EEPROM or Flash Memory block 14, a FIFO block 16, a RISC processor or DSP block 18, and a PCI bus interface block 22 (internal bus with internal signals). In principle, the RISC processor or DSP block 18 can be any type of central processing unit ("CPU") including a DSP, a micro-controller, RISC or a complex instruction set computer ("CISC"). (Col. 5, lines 33-43). Chang1 also teaches the PCIBC 10 includes a programmable logic block (PLB) 26 (a FPGA function). (Col. 5, lines 56-58). Chang1 does not explicitly teach that the PLB 26 has a debug function, however, Chang1 does suggest that the PLB 26 can implement one or more functions that is performed by the functional blocks included in the PCIBC 10. (Col. 5, lines 65-67; col. 6, lines 1-5). As previously mentioned, Chang1 also discloses a RISC processor or DSP block 18 which can be any type of central processing unit ("CPU") including a, a micro-controller. Chang1 further teaches a Smart Card Controller ("SCC") ASIC in Fig. 2. Barnett teaches an emulator that may be used to emulate a micro-controller in a smart card. FPGA 100 is programmed with a model of a micro-controller 102 and a model of monitoring or debug logic 104 (debug client function). (Col. 5, lines 37-43). Barnett further teaches monitoring or debug logic 104 provides the logic surrounding micro-controller 102 that allows a fully transparent window into the internal functioning of micro-controller 102 and observe the signals and timing at any point in the micro-controller (observe signals). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the invention was made to modify Chang1's PLB 26 program with Barnett's debug function in FPGA 100 to observe signals. The artisan would be motivated to do so because it would enable Chang1 to have more control of the micro-controller in observing the signals and timing at any point. Chang2 teaches of a FPGA included within an ASIC that is configurable to effect a specific digital logic circuit interconnection between fixed functional units (manipulates bus signals). (Col. 3, 32-37; col. 5, lines 66, 67; col. 6, lines 1-19). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to also configure Chang1's PLB 26 as Chang2's FPGA to manipulate the signals of the Chang1's conventional functional blocks. The artisan would be motivated to do so because it would enable Chang1 to have more control of the micro-controller in manipulating the data presented on Chang2's bus interface 26.

Claim 9:

The debug client function with an ASIC and a FPGA is rejected as per claim 1. The modification of Chang1's PLB 26 with Barnett's FPGA to include the debug function is presented in the rejection of claim 1. Also, The limitation of "selector logic coupled to the at least one bus and the plurality of internal signals" is rejected per claim 1.

Chang1 does not explicitly teach PLB 26 includes an external communication logic function for receiving and transmitting information to a server, however, Chang1 does suggest that the PLB 26 can implement one or more functions that is performed by the functional blocks included in the PCIBC 10, one being a PCI bus interface block 22. (Col. 5, lines 65-67; col. 6, lines 1-5). Chang1 also teaches a CPU (not illustrated in any of the FIGS.), that is included in the computer system (server), communicates with the

RISC processor or DSP block 18 (also a micro-controller, programmed into the PLB 26 per Barnett, claim 1) through the PCI bus interface block 22 (Also programmed into the PCB 26). An in-system programming ("ISP") interface 28, included in the PLB 26, provides a port through which the PLB 26 may be programmed or configured (debug client function programmed by a server). (Col. 6, lines 35-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Chang1's PLB 26 could be programmed to implement the function of the PCI bus interface block 22 (external communication logic function). The artisan would be motivated to do so because this would enable the debug client function programmed in the PCB 26 (per Barnett) to communicate with the server.

Chang1 does not explicitly teach PLB 26 includes an interface logic, however, Chang1 does suggest that the PLB 26 can implement one or more functions that is performed by the functional blocks included in the PCIBC 10. (Col. 5, lines 65-67; col. 6, lines 1-5). Chang2 teaches that the FPGA 48 may also be configured to perform additional logic functions (interface logic). (Col. 6, lines 19-35). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Chang1's PLB 26 could be programmed to implement Chang2's additional logic functions (interface logic). The artisan would be motivated to do so because this would enable Chang1 to create additional logic to interface between Chang2's bus selector circuit and Chang1's PCI bus interface block 22 (external communication logic function).

Claim 2, 10:

The limitation of “the at least one bus comprises an internal bus” is rejected per claim 1.

Claim 3, 11:

The limitation of “the debug client function observes and manipulates at least one point of interest on the standard cell” is rejected per claim 1.

Claim 4, 12:

The modification of Chang1’s PLB 26 with Barnett’s FPGA to include the debug function is presented in the rejection of claim 1. Chang1 teaches a CPU (not illustrated in any of the FIGS.), that is included in the computer system (server), communicates with the RISC processor or DSP block 18 (also a micro-controller) through the PCI bus interface block 22. An in-system programming (“ISP”) interface 28, included in the PLB 26, provides a port through which the PLB 26 may be programmed or configured (debug client function programmed by a server). (Col. 6, lines 35-45). Barnett also teaches the host computer (server) compiles the source level logic descriptions of the microprocessor 102 and debug interface 104 (debug client function) and loads and configures them into the field programmable gate array (FPGA). (Col. 7, lines 30-35).

Claim 5:

The modification of Chang1’s PLB 26 with Barnett’s FPGA to include the debug function is presented in the rejection of claim 1. Also, The limitation of “selector logic coupled to the at least one bus and the plurality of internal signals” is rejected per claim 1.

Chang1 does not explicitly teach PLB 26 includes an external communication logic function for receiving and transmitting information to a server, however, Chang1 does suggest that the PLB 26 can implement one or more functions that is performed by the functional blocks included in the PCIBC 10, one being a PCI bus interface block 22. (Col. 5, lines 65-67; col. 6, lines 1-5). Chang1 also teaches a CPU (not illustrated in any of the FIGS.), that is included in the computer system (server), communicates with the RISC processor or DSP block 18 (also a micro-controller, programmed into the PLB 26 per Barnett, claim 1) through the PCI bus interface block 22 (Also programmed into the PCB 26). An in-system programming ("ISP") interface 28; included in the PLB 26, provides a port through which the PLB 26 may be programmed or configured (debug client function programmed by a server). (Col. 6, lines 35-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Chang1's PLB 26 could be programmed to implement the function of the PCI bus interface block 22 (external communication logic function). The artisan would be motivated to do so because this would enable the debug client function programmed in the PCB 26 (per Barnett) to communicate with the server.

Chang1 does not explicitly teach PLB 26 includes an interface logic, however, Chang1 does suggest that the PLB 26 can implement one or more functions that is performed by the functional blocks included in the PCIBC 10. (Col. 5, lines 65-67; col. 6, lines 1-5). Chang2 teaches that the FPGA 48 may also be configured to perform additional logic functions (interface logic). (Col. 6, lines 19-35). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that

Chang1's PLB 26 could be programmed to implement Chang2's additional logic functions (interface logic). The artisan would be motivated to do so because this would enable Chang1 to create additional logic to interface between Chang2's bus selector circuit and Chang1's PCI bus interface block 22 (external communication logic function).

Claim 6, 13:

The modification of Chang1's PLB 26 with Barnett's FPGA to include the debug function is presented in the rejection of claim 1. The limitation "and output logic function..." is rejected per claim 5 above (external communication logic function). Barnett teaches in FIG. 8 that shows an example of the logic found in the debug interface 104. Barnett suggests that emulators (see claim 1 for combination) have trace memory that stores the addresses and data values (storage logic function) that the micro-controller has used while running. The host software can then examine this (provided to the server). Barnett teaches a comparator 142 (comparator logic function) which compares the break address from the break register 140 with the address stored in the code ROM (signals of interest).

Claim 7, 14:

Barnett teaches host computer 136 contains a source level debugging software program that cooperates with the logic (hardware) in debug interface 104 to allow the software engineer to execute software code instructions in the target environment and observe the signals and timing at any point in the micro-controller. (Col. 6, lines 19-24).

Claim 8, 15:

Barnett teaches Ram 106 holds the code store that provides a program for operating the modeled micro-controller 102. A host computer 108 holds a debug program for debugging the code store software (debug software) provided to micro-controller 102.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

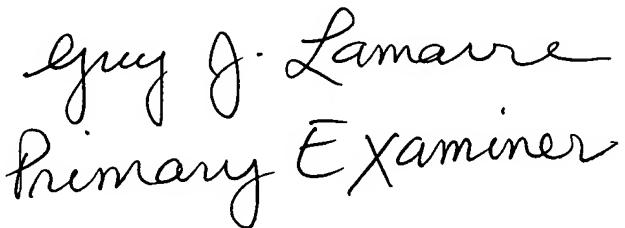
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John J. Tabone, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3827. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert DeCady can be reached on (571) 272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


John J. Tabone, Jr.
Examiner
Art Unit 2133


Guy J. Lamarre
Primary Examiner